

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

DHA-02 OMB-01 /055 W

-----076510 070400Z /20

R 061401Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5147

USIA WASHDC

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USIA FOR IPS AND IEU

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS:

SUJECT: GDR PRESS LAW

1. GDR PRESS HAS BEEN CONCENTRATING LATELY ON WHAT IT INTERPRETS AS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN THE UNITED STATES. EVEN THOUGH MOST SOURCES CITED ARE AMERICAN PUBLICATIONS AND OFFICIAL STATEMENTS, GDR PRESS EDITS OUT ALL SEMBLANCE OF BALANCE, HIGHLIGHTING EXCLUSIVELY THE MOST NEGATIVE ASPECTS OF ARTICLES AND NEW REPORTS DEALING WITH PROBLEMS IN THE U.S. TREATMENT VARIES FROM DAILY PINPRICKS TO WHOLE PAGES, DEVOTED TO PROBLEMS OF BLACKS, AMERICAN INDIANS, ABUSE OF WOMEN, DRUGS, BUT MOST CONTINUOUSLY TO UNEMPLOYMENT IN WHAT THE GDR CHARACTERISES AS A VIOLATION OF THE HUMAN RIGHT TO WORK.

2. POST WISHES ATTEMPT REPLY GDR PRESS ATTACKS AND DISTORTIONS AMERICAN SOCIETY IN HOPE OF ACCOMPLISHING AT LEAST ONE OF TWO POSSIBLE ENDS. SINCE GDR PRESS LAW PROHIBITS DIRECT MAILING PRINTED MATERIALS, POST WILL COMPLY WITH LOCAL LAW AND SUBMIT MATERIAL TO MFA PRESS DEPARTMENT FOR PLACEMENT. IF MFA REJECTS MATERIAL, WE CAN ESTABLISH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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BEGINNING OF TRACK RECORD FOR WHATEVER PURPOSE - BILATERAL, CSCE - IS MOST USEFUL. IF MFA APPROVES, WE HAVE AT LEAST BEEN GIVEN EQUAL SPACE AND POSSIBILITY OF JOURNALISTIC DIALOGUE.

3. IPS HEREWITH REQUESTED SUPPLY POST WITH WELL-DOCUMENTED ARTICLE PLACING CURRENT UNEMPLOYMENT PROBLEM

IN US IN PERSPECTIVE. ANOTHER FAVORITE GDR THEME
IS RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND POST WOULD REQUEST ARTICLE
ON PROGRESS THIS AREA.

4. WHILE POST NOT OVERLY OPTIMISTIC ABOUT SUCCESS OF
PRESS PLACEMENT, NEITHER DOES IT VIEW THIS EXERCISE AS
TILTING AT GDR WINDMILLS. IF GDR INSISTS ON OBSERVANCE
ITS PRESS LAW, THAT LAW SHOULD BE PUT TO TEST. SAME HOLDS
TRUE OF GDR INTENTIONS TOWARDS RELATIONS WITH U.S.,
THE IMPROVEMENT OF WHICH IS ANOTHER FAVORITE THEME.
DURING PAO CONSULTATIONS IN JANUARY, GDR POLITICAL
COUNSELOR MONTAG REACEED TO COMPLAINTS ABOUT RESTRICTIONS IN
BERLIN SAYING THAT GDR LAWS HAD TO BE OBSERVED EVEN BY
THE EMBASSY. IN MAKING THE PROPOSED PROBE AND WITH THE
CONTINUED SUPPORT OF IPS IN PROVIDING NECESSARY MATERIAL,
THERE IS ONLY GAIN IN WHATEVER RESULTS FROM ATTEMPTING
PRESS PLACEMENT BY OBSERVING THE GDR PRESS LAW. ADVISE.
POLANSKY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, HUMAN RIGHTS, ALLEGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 06-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: BERLIN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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